

Amendments to the Specification:

At page 1, prior to line 4, please amend the application to include the following new section and headings:

--Related Applications

The present application is a divisional of U.S. application Serial No. 09/050,366 filed March 31, 1998, which is a continuation of U.S. application Serial No. 08/857,245 filed May 16, 1997, which claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 of U.S. application Serial No. 60/017,822 filed May 17, 1996.

Field of the Invention--.

Please amend the paragraph appearing at page 2, lines 14-19 to read as follows:

Replacement therapy with recombinant GH (rhGH) has demonstrated favorable effects on most of the features of GH deficiency in adults 17. Whether rhGH treatment can improve the metabolic abnormalities observed in abdominal/visceral obesity has never been investigated.

Summary of the Invention

In the present study a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled design was used to evaluate the effects of rhGH administration in patients with abdominal/visceral obesity.

Please amend the section at page 3, lines 22 - page 4, line 5, to read as follows:

Legends to figures. Brief Description of the Drawings.

Figure 1. Mean total body fat calculated from total body potassium, abdominal subcutaneous adipose tissue (AT) area at the level of L4-L5 and volume of visceral AT, as described in the example.

Figure 2. Abdominal subcutaneous and visceral adipose tissue determined with computed tomography at the level of L4-5 in one man before (A) and after 9 months of rhGH treatment (B) , as described in the example.

Figure 3. Mean fasting blood glucose, serum insulin and glucose disappearance rate (GDR) , as described in the example.

Detailed Description--

At page 12, line 5, please amend the heading as follows:

Legends to figures. Data set forth in the figures is described as follows:

Following the specification and claims, please insert the following Abstract of the Disclosure: